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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

CHANEY et al

International Application No.: PCT/US97/15109

International Filing Date: August 29, 1997

Serial No.: Unknown 09/14772/

Filed: February 24, 1999

For: METHOD FOR PHYTOMINING OF NICKEL, COBALT AND OTHER METALS

FROM SOIL

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

February 24, 1999

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached.

No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the last of (1) issuance of a first official action on the merits and (2) expiration of the three month period following filing of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 CFR 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during

the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 14-1060 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

NIKAIDO, MARMELSTEIN, MURRAY & ORAM LLP

Douglas H. Goldhush Attorney for applicants Reg. No. 33,125

Atty. Docket No. P8172-9005

Metropolitan Square 655 Fifteenth Street, N.W. Suite 330 - G Street Lobby Washington, D.C. 20005-5701 Tel (202) 638-5000 Fax (202) 638-4810

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Encls: PTO-1449; 21 References